

IN THE SPECIFICATION: The specification as amended below with replacement paragraphs shows added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~.

Please REPLACE paragraph [0019] with the following paragraph:

**[0019]** FIGS. 3A through 3E show distributions of intensity of light spots having a 400 nm wavelength ( $\lambda$ ) according to an amount of defocus where the light spots are formed by using an objective lens having a 0.65 NA on a land/groove type next generation DVD-RAM disc having a track pitch of 0.34 nm~~μm~~ and a groove depth of  $\lambda/6$ . In FIGS. 3A through 3E, the horizontal direction and the vertical direction signify a radial direction and a tangential direction of a recording medium, respectively. As shown in FIGS. 3A through 3B, light spot intensity varies between a central portion and a peripheral portion of the light spot in a radial direction on a next generation DVD-RAM disc according to the amount of defocus. The intensity variation is approximately opposite with respect to a (+) defocus and a (-) defocus.